

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 10, and 12-24 are pending. These same claims have been amended, claims 3-11 have been canceled, and new claims 14-24 have been added to provide an additional measure of protection for the invention.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 10 will be considered allowable if rewritten in independent form to recite the features of its base and intervening claims. Claim 10 has been rewritten in this manner and claims 12 and 13 have been left to depend from claim 10. Several clarifying amendments were also made to these same claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite features similar to those which patentably distinguish claim 10 from the cited references. For example, claim 1 recites a digit analysis circuit which determines whether dialed digits from a call pick-up subscriber match a call pick-up feature code and a ring search circuit which searches states of telephones of the subscribers in response to the match. This claim further recites that the digit analysis circuit determines the match when a call to subscribers belonging to a same call pick-up is received. The caller information analysis circuit then analyzes caller information received from the search.

None of the references of record teach or suggest these features. That is, while the Nakamura patent discloses the display of unique identifiers for different groups of lines, neither this patent nor the O'Neil and Lee patents teach or suggest the features added by amendment to claim 1.

Claim 2 recites generating a message requesting the caller information, sending the message to one or more of the ringed subscribers, receiving a response message from each of the ringed subscribers, analyzing the caller information included in the response messages and building the caller information table using the analyzed caller information and telephone numbers of the ringed subscribers. These features are not or suggested in the O'Neil, Lee and Nakamura patent, whether taken alone or in combination.

Because claim 1 and its dependent claims recite features which patentably distinguish claim 10 from the cited references, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and its dependent claims are also allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

New claims 14-24 have been added to the application.

Claim 14 recites that the system of claim 1 includes a "call process common circuit" which allows telephones of the ringed subscribers to continue to ring so that another call pick-up subscriber can pick up of the call." These features are not taught or suggested in the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 15 recites that the call process common circuit "allows the telephones to continue to ring when the digit analysis circuit receives a code for giving up the call pick up from the call pick-up subscriber." These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 16 recites that the digit analysis circuit "determines whether additional dial digits from the call pick-up subscriber match a unique identifier in the caller information table." This claim also recites that "if there is a match at least one of the ringed

subscribers is notified of the existence of the call pick-up subscriber for establishing 1-2-1 communication with a caller.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 18 recites that the callers identified in the caller information table correspond to one or more of the ringed subscribers. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 19 recites a method for performing a pick-up operation which includes receiving a call to subscribers of a same call pick-up group, receiving a call pick-up feature code from a call pick-up subscriber and response to said call, validating the call pick-up feature code, and performing a ring subscriber search to determine states of telephones of the subscribers. Based on the results of the search, the caller information table is generated and displayed, and the call is connected based on a selection of information in the table. These features are not taught or suggested in the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 20 recites that the ring subscriber search includes generating a message requesting caller information, sending the message to one of the ringed subscribers, and receiving a response message including the caller information from the ringed subscriber. These steps are repeated for remaining ones of the ringed subscribers, and then the caller information table is generated based on the obtained caller information. These features are not taught or suggested in the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 21 recites that the caller information includes telephone numbers of the ringed subscribers, and claim 22 recites that the caller information includes means of the

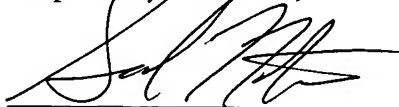
ringed subscribers. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 23 recites that the call is connected by receiving information from the call pick-up subscriber selecting one of the ringed subscribers identified in the caller information table, notifying the selected subscriber of the existence of the selection made by the call pick-up subscriber, and receiving a response from the selected subscriber in connecting the call. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 14-24 are allowable, along with the remaining claims pending in the application. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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